

1 **Rule 15-527. Appointment of trustee to protect clients' interest when a licensed paralegal**  
2 **practitioner disappears, dies, is suspended or delicensed, or is transferred to disability**  
3 **status.**

4 (a) Protective appointment of trustee. If a licensed paralegal practitioner has disappeared or  
5 died, or if a respondent has been suspended or delicensed or transferred to disability status, and if  
6 there is evidence that the licensed paralegal practitioner or respondent has not complied with the  
7 provisions of Rule 15-526 and no partner, executor, or other responsible party capable of  
8 conducting the licensed paralegal practitioner's or respondent's affairs is known to exist, a  
9 district judge of the judicial district in which the licensed paralegal practitioner or respondent  
10 maintained a principal office, upon the request of OPC counsel, may appoint a trustee to  
11 inventory the licensed paralegal practitioner's or respondent's files, notify the licensed paralegal  
12 practitioner's or respondent's clients, distribute the files to the clients, return unearned fees and  
13 other funds, and take any additional action authorized by the judge making the appointment.

14 (b) Confidentiality. No attorney-client relationship exists between the client and the trustee  
15 except to the extent necessary to maintain and preserve the confidentiality of the client. The  
16 trustee shall not disclose any information contained in the files so inventoried without the  
17 consent of the client to whom such files relate, except as necessary to carry out the order of the  
18 court making the appointment.

19 (c) Immunity. Any person appointed as a trustee shall have the immunity granted by Rule 15-  
20 513.